

## Jim Palenick

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**From:** Jim Palenick [jpalenick@dallasnc.net]  
**ent:** Friday, August 01, 2014 3:48 PM  
**to:** 'rcdc18'; '<ronniemorrow@att.net>'; '<huggybarber@att.net>'; '<hoylewithers@yahoo.com>'; '<jcmalker@gmail.com>'; '<jjerry2@att.net>'  
**Cc:** 'Maria Stroupe'; 'Gary Buckner'; 'Steve Lambert'; 'Bill Trudnak'; 'Doug Huffman'; 'A. Martin'; 'Jack Kiser'; 'jthomashunn@aol.com'  
**Subject:** Town Manager's Weekly Report (#85)  
**Attachments:** Time Warner letter - 2014.docx; Updated Vehicle Wrap.htm

Mayor & Board of Aldermen(Women):

Please accept the following as the **Town Manager's Weekly Report for the Week-ended, Friday, August 1, 2014.**

- The State treasurer's Office notified us to begin the week that they were withholding their review and approval of our new Audit contract with Lowdermilk, Church & Co., pending their receipt of the final Audit for Fiscal-Year 2013, as prepared by Collis and Associates. Of course this took us by surprise since we had believed that Collis had submitted the final Audit, but instead, it took yet another prompting before it was finally submitted on Tuesday. Since that time, we have been apprised that the Treasurer's Office has acknowledged receipt and is reviewing the document for final approval. Unfortunately, however, this has already caused us a minor set-back in the commencement of efforts by Lowdermilk, Church – pending approval of their contract.
- Washington D.C.-based Attorney's on behalf of Time Warner Cable have again attempted to try to intimidate us into negotiating downward the pole attachment fees that we have put in place by Ordinance, and which are being paid consistently by both Charter Cable and AT&T – who collectively make up the vast majority of all pole attachments.. In my response letter (copy attached) you will see that I have Made clear that the Town of Dallas has no desire to engage in any further discussions with Time Warner regarding this matter given our Ordinance and the competitor Agreements, and given that Time Warner only has 56 attachment total and no residential customers within the community.
- Jack Kiser officially begins his duties as the Town's new Development Services Director on Monday, August 4<sup>th</sup>. In that regard, I will be relinquishing my dual role as both Interim Town Manager and Acting Development Services Director which I have fulfilled for the last four months dating back to when David Kahler first went on medical leave. Any issue associated with planning, zoning or development permitting can now be directed to Jack, who will operate out of the same office that Mr. Kahler occupied.
- Beginning August 1<sup>st</sup>, Town utility customers will begin receiving their first utility bills impacted by the 4% increase in Electric Sales Taxes; the restructuring of Electric rates; and the 3% increase in water and sewer rates. These bills are reflective of the new fiscal-year beginning July 1<sup>st</sup> and after. So, if customers question individual aspects of their bills it will be important to closely evaluate what portion may have caused the change. The State-imposed sales tax increase alone will create an immediate and noticeable impact.
- Electric Director Doug Huffman and I will be attending the annual conference of Electricities being held next week in Pinehurst, NC. We will be leaving Wednesday afternoon and will be there for the remainder of the week –returning on Saturday. This is the yearly gathering of all statewide municipalities who operate municipal electric utilities for training, legislative updates, and strategy-setting on all things electric power related.
- An update on the Courthouse project reveals that all the interior drywall is now complete and painting has begun. Also, the stairs are now installed within the tower and the elevator will be delivered next week. The generator is on site and will be installed on its pad next week, while HVAC installations are nearing completion. I ordered all the appliances for both the Courthouse kitchen and the Civic building update this week (from Home Depot) and was able, as a result of multiple discounts, to bring all the purchases under budget. We nonetheless acquired all stainless-steel, high-capacity, top-of-the-line units which will function well and present a highly-professional appearance.
- We have picked up our two electric car charging stations; consulted with Dallas electric on their proper installation, and finalized the design and ordered the graphic wraps for the plug-in electric vehicles in

furtherance of our Grant-assisted project to introduce electric vehicle infrastructure to the Town and our organization. We hope to have the charging stations in place and the cars on the road by mid-August.

- Tarpon construction was given "notice-to-proceed" on the Jagers Park improvement project late this week. As such, expect them to mobilize and begin sometime next week.

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